



# PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA

The Prince William Sound Area includes all waters of Alaska between the longitude of Cape Fairfield and the longitude of Cape Suckling. These regulations apply on waters within or adjacent to the Chugach National Forest, and Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. Bureau of Land Management lands are open to fishing only on non-navigable waters, and the Gulkana River portions designated as a Wild River.

Upper Copper River District. The Upper Copper River District consists of all waters of the mainstem Copper River, from the mouth of the Slana River downstream to an east-west line crossing the Copper River approximately 200 yards upstream of Haley Creek, as designated by ADF&G regulatory markers.

- The Chitina Subdistrict consists of all waters of the Upper Copper River District downstream of the downstream edge of the Chitina-McCarthy Road Bridge.
- The Glennallen Subdistrict consists of all remaining waters of the Upper Copper River District.

[See map 12 on previous page.]

CUSTOMARY AND TRADITIONAL USE DETERMINATIONS		
Area	Species	Determination
<u>South-Western District</u> and Green Island	Salmon	Residents of the South-Western District, which is mainland waters from the outer point on the north shore of Granite Bay to Cape Fairfield, and Knight Island, Chenega Island, Bainbridge Island, Evans Island, Elrington Island, Latouche Island, and adjacent islands.
North of a line from Porcupine Point to Granite Point, and south of a line from Point Lowe to Tongue Point	Salmon	Residents of the villages of Tatitlek and Ellamar.
<u>Chitina Subdistrict</u> of the Upper Copper River District	Salmon	Residents of Cantwell, Chisina, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glennallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, Tonsina, and those individuals along Tok Cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.
<u>Glennallen Subdistrict</u> of the Upper Copper River District	Salmon	Residents of the Prince William Sound Area and residents of Cantwell, Chisana, Dot Lake, Healy Lake, Northway, Tanacross, Tetlin, Tok, and those individuals living along the Alaska Highway from the Alaska/Canadian border to Dot Lake, along the Tok Cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.
Waters of the Copper River between National Park Service regulatory markers located near the mouth of Tanada Creek between National Park Service regulatory markers identifying the open waters of the creek	Salmon	Residents of Dot Lake and Mentasta Lake.
Remainder of the Prince William Sound Area	Salmon	Residents of the Prince William Sound Area.
Copper River drainage upstream from Haley Creek	Freshwater fish including burbot, Dolly Varden, grayling, sucker, and whitefish of various species	Residents of Cantwell, Chisina, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center, Dot Lake, Gakona, Gakona Junction, Glennallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Kenny Lake, Lower Tonsina, McCarthy, Mentasta Lake, Nabesna, Northway, Slana, Tanacross, Tazlina, Tetlin, Tok, Tonsina, and those individuals living along Tok Cutoff from Tok to Mentasta Pass, and along the Nabesna Road.

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## General Provisions:

SUBSISTENCE FISHING PERMIT REQUIRED. You may take fish, other than rainbow/steelhead trout, in the Prince William Sound Area only under the authority of a subsistence fishing permit, except that a permit is not required to take eulachon.

You may take fish by gear listed in this part, unless restricted in this section or by the terms of a subsistence fishing permit.

### Please Note.

The Chitina Subdistrict of the Upper Copper River District will be managed based on the numbers of fish present and other related biological information. State and Federal biologists will jointly evaluate the information. It is anticipated that Federal and State management actions will occur simultaneously. Federal Subsistence users will be notified of these inseason openings and closings via radio, signs at public locations, newspapers, and television.

Incidental catch: If you take rainbow/steelhead trout incidentally in other subsistence net fisheries, you may retain them for subsistence purposes, unless restricted in this section.

In the Copper River drainage upstream from Haley Creek, you may take salmon only in the waters of the Upper Copper River District, or in the vicinity of the Native Village of Batzulnetas. You may not take salmon in the tributaries of the Copper River or in waters of the Copper River not in the Upper Copper River District, except as permitted at Batzulnetas.

You may take salmon in the Upper Copper River district only as outlined below:

## Regulations:

Glennallen and Chitina Subdistricts, from May 15 through September 30. However, in 2003, the opening date of the Chitina Subdistrict will likely be later than May 15th. It will be opened by Special Action and will be announced via news releases.

- You may not possess salmon taken with an Upper Copper River District subsistence fishing permit, unless you immediately remove the anal (ventral) fin from the salmon (see Fin Identification, page 5). "Immediately" means prior to concealing the fish from plain view or transporting the fish more than 50 feet from where the fish was removed from the water.
- You must release rainbow/steelhead trout taken by dip net in the Upper Copper River District and return them unharmed to the water. If you catch rainbow/steelhead trout incidentally while subsistence fishing with fish wheels, you may retain them. Any rainbow/steelhead trout you retain for subsistence purposes must have the anal (ventral) fin removed immediately (see Fin Identification, page 5). "Immediately" means prior to concealing the fish from plain view or transporting the fish more than 50 feet from where the fish was removed from the water.

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## REGULATIONS (CONTINUED):

UPPER COPPER RIVER DISTRICT			
Species	Gear	Incidental Catches	Season
Salmon	Fish wheels Dip nets Rod and Reel	<u>Fish wheels:</u> You may retain rainbow/steelhead trout or other fishwater fish caught incidentally to salmon by fish wheels. <u>Dip nets:</u> You may not retain and must release unharmed rainbow/steelhead trout caught incidentally to salmon by dip net. Other freshwater fish species caught incidentally to salmon by dip net may be retained.	May 15 through Sept. 30 by permit only. However, in 2003, the opening date of the Chitina Subdistrict will like be later than May 15. It will be open by Special Action and will be announced via a news release.

UPPER COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: <u>Glennallen and Chitina Subdistricts</u> Total combined annual harvest limits		
Household Size	Total Annual Harvest Limit	Permit Restrictions
One-person households	30 salmon (including no more than 5 chinook by dip net and 5 chinook by rod and reel)	Permittee may request up to 200 salmon total (chinook limit does not change).
Households of two or more persons	60 salmon (including no more than 5 chinook by dip net and 5 chinook by rod and reel)	Permittee may request up to 500 salmon total (chinook limit does not change).

The following applies to Upper Copper River District subsistence salmon fishing permits:

- Only one permit per subdistrict will be issued to each household per year. If a household has been issued permits for both subdistricts in the same year, both permits must be in your possession and readily available for inspection while fishing or transporting subsistence-taken fish in either subdistrict. A qualified household may also be issued a Batzulnetas salmon fishery permit in the same year.
- Multiple types of gear may be specified on a permit, although only one unit of gear may be operated at any one time;
- You must return your permit no later than October 31, or you may be denied a permit for the following year.
- A fish wheel may be operated only by one permit holder at one time; that permit holder must have the fish wheel marked as required by this section and during fishing operations;
- Only the permit holder and the authorized members of the household listed on the subsistence permit may take salmon.
- A permit holder must immediately record all retained fish on the permit. Immediately means prior to concealing the fish from plain view or transporting the fish more than 50 feet from where the fish was removed from the water.
- You must personally operate the fish wheel or dipnet.
- You may not loan or transfer a subsistence fish wheel or dip net permit, except as permitted.

**If you are a village council or similar organization whose members operate fish wheels:**

- Village councils (or other similarly qualified organizations) whose members operate fish wheels for subsistence purposes on behalf of members of its village or organization may request a sub-

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### REGULATIONS (CONTINUED):

sistence fishing permit. The village council or organization must submit a harvest assessment plan to the Federal Subsistence Board, and administer the plan once they receive their permit.

The harvest assessment plan must include:

- ♦ Provisions for recording daily catches for each fish wheel;
  - ♦ Sample data collection forms;
  - ♦ Location and number of fish wheels; and,
  - ♦ Full legal name of the individual responsible for the lawful operation of each fish wheel.
  - ♦ Other information necessary for effective resource management may also be required.
- The permit will list all households and household members for whom the fish wheel is operated.
  - The allowable harvest may not exceed the combined seasonal harvest limits for the households listed on the permit; the permittee will notify the ADF&G or Federal Subsistence Board when households are added to the list, and the seasonal harvest limits may be adjusted accordingly.
  - Members of the households listed on a permit issued to a village council or other similarly qualified organization, are not eligible for a separate household subsistence fishing permit for the Upper Copper River District.

#### **If you are a fish wheel owner:**

- You must register your fish wheel with ADF&G or the National Park Service.
- Your registration number and name and address must be permanently affixed and plainly visible on the fish wheel when the fish wheel is in the water; only the current year's registration number may be affixed to the fish wheel; you must remove any other registration number from the fish wheel;
- You must remove the fish wheel from the water at the end of the permit period;
- You may not rent, lease, or otherwise use your fish wheel used for subsistence fishing for personal gain.

#### **If you are operating a fish wheel:**

- You may operate only one fish wheel at any one time.
- You may not set or operate a fish wheel within 75 feet of another fish wheel.
- No fish wheel may have more than two baskets.
- If you are a permittee other than the owner, a wood or metal plate at least 12 inches high by 12 inches wide, bearing your name and address in letters and numerals at least 1 inch high, must be attached to the fish wheel so that the name and address are plainly visible.

**Batzulnetas.** Residents of Mentasta Village and Dot Lake may take salmon in the vicinity of the former Native village of Batzulnetas only under authority of a Batzulnetas subsistence salmon fishing permit available from the National Park Service under the following conditions:

- **Copper River.** You may take salmon only in those waters of the Copper River between National Park Service regulatory markers located near the mouth of Tanada Creek, and approximately one-half mile downstream from that mouth and in Tanada Creek between National Park Service regulatory markers identifying the open waters of the creek.
- **Copper River.** You may use only fish wheels, dip nets, and rod and reel in the Copper River.
- **Tanada Creek.** You may use only dip nets, spears, and rod and reel in Tanada Creek.
- You may take salmon only from May 15 through September 30 or until the season is closed by special action.
- You may retain chinook salmon taken in a fish wheel in the Copper River. You may not take chinook salmon in Tanada Creek.



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### REGULATIONS (CONTINUED):

- You must return the permit to the National Park Service no later than October 15.
- There is no harvest limit for Batzulinetas.

### The following regulations apply to specific feshwater streams that flow into Prince William Sound:

You may take pink salmon for subsistence purposes from freshwaters with a dip net from May 15 until September 30, 7 days per week with no harvest or possession limits in the following areas:

- Green Island, Knight Island, Chenega Island, Bainbridge Island, Evans Island, Elrington Island, Latouche Island, and adjacent islands and the mainland waters from the outer point of Granite Bay located in Knight Island Passage to Cape Fairfield.
- Waters north of a line from Porcupine Point to Granite Point, and south of a line from Point Lowe to Tongue Point.

